

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026
9:15 AM Worship Lite

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman
Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz
Guest Preacher: Sandy Grant
Lector: Marti Conant **Acolyte:** Beckett Nelson & Eve Conant
Ushers: Andrea & Mikayla Thomas & Jean Johnson

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Christ, Be Our Light" by Farrell

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.
C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: Amen.

Stand

GATHERING SONG: "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" #158 Life Songs

vss. 1, 2 & 4

Vs. 1 Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
Keep me burning till the break of day.

Refrain: Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of Kings
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna to the King of Kings!

Vs. 2: Give me love in my heart, keep me sharing.
Give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me sharing.
Keep me sharing till the break of day. Refrain…

Vs. 4: Give me faith in my heart, keep me praying.
Give me faith in my heart, I pray.
Give me faith in my heart, keep me praying.
Keep me praying till the break of day. Refrain…

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

LITANY

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

P: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

P: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE: "Come, All You People" #717 WOV

vs. 1: Come, all you people,
come and praise the Most High; (3x)
come now and worship the Lord.

vs. 2: Come, all you people,
come and praise the Savior; (3x)
come now and worship the Lord.

vs. 3: Come, all you people,
come and praise the Spirit; (3x)
come now and worship the Lord.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" #172 ELW

Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Narrator: [7] Quiet now! Reverent silence before me, God, the Master! Time's up. My Judgment Day is near: The Holy Day is all set, the invited guests made holy.[12-13] I'll search through every closet and alley in Jerusalem. I'll find and punish those who are sitting it out, fat and lazy, amusing themselves and taking it easy, Who think, 'God doesn't do anything, good or bad. He isn't involved, so neither are we.' But just wait. They'll lose everything they have, money and house and land.

Congregation: They'll build a house and never move in. They'll plant vineyards and never taste the wine. [14-18] "The Great Judgment Day of God is almost here. It's countdown time: . . . seven, six, five, four . . . Bitter and noisy cries on my Judgment Day, even strong men screaming for help.

Narrator: Judgment Day is payday—my anger paid out: a day of distress and anguish, a day of catastrophic doom, a day of darkness at noon, a day of black storm clouds,
a day of bloodcurdling war cries, as forts are assaulted, as defenses are smashed. I'll make things so bad they won't know what hit them.

Congregation: They'll walk around groping like the blind. They've sinned against God! Their blood will be poured out like old dishwater, their guts shoveled into slop buckets. Don't plan on buying your way out. Your money is worthless for this.

Narrator: This is the Day of God's Judgment—my *wrath*! I *care* about sin with fiery passion—A fire to burn up the corrupted world, a wildfire finish to the corrupting people."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN'S WORD / THE WORD

Stand

SONG OF THE WORD: "Bind us Together" #748 WOV vss. 1 & 2

Refrain: Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together,

Lord; bind us together in love.

vs. 1: There is only one God. There is only one King.
There is only one Body; that is why we can sing: Refrain…

vs. 2: You are the family of God. You are the promise divine.
You are God's chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine. Refrain…

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sit

OFFERING SONG:

"Make Me a Servant" #137 Lifesongs

Make me a servant humble and meek.
Lord let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be

Make me a servant. Make me a servant.
Make me a servant today.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared. The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

People are invited to sing while others come forward to commune. The hymns are: "For the Bread Which You Have Broken" ELW #494; "One Bread, One Body" ELW #496

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy God,

C: we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You

continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

P: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Postlude on St. Anne" Croft/Callahan